

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 249A.4, the Department of Human Services amends Chapter 78, “Amount, Duration and Scope of Medical and Remedial Services,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Vaccines for Children (VFC) is a federal program administered in Iowa through the Iowa Department of Public Health. When providers enroll in the program, they receive covered vaccines at no cost. Therefore, no reimbursement for these vaccines has been allowed in the Iowa Medicaid program. However, if the VFC program stock is depleted, providers must administer vaccines acquired from other sources. Iowa Medicaid has been paying for vaccines in these circumstances through the exception to policy (waiver) process, which is time-consuming and cumbersome.

These amendments allow Medicaid providers to bill Medicaid for a vaccine ordinarily furnished through the VFC program when the VFC program has no remaining stock of that vaccine. The amendments affect coverage limitations for physicians, hospital inpatient and outpatient services, home health agencies, screening centers, rural health centers, family planning clinics, other clinics, maternal health centers, birth centers, federally qualified health centers, advanced registered nurse practitioners, pharmacies (for influenza vaccine only), and local education agencies.

Notice of Intended Action on these amendments was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on December 28, 2011, as **ARC 9940B**. The Department received no comments on the Notice of Intended Action. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice of Intended Action.

The Council on Human Services adopted these amendments on March 14, 2012.

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations because reimbursement for vaccines when VFC program stock is depleted will benefit the providers affected. Requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4.

These amendments shall become effective on June 1, 2012.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Pursuant to recommendation of the Administrative Rules Review Committee published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin, September 10, 1986, the text of these amendments [amendments to Ch 78] is being omitted. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice as **ARC 9940B**, IAB 12/28/11.

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[For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 4/4/12.]